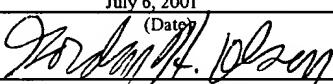




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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Charles Larsen) Group Art Unit Unknown
Appl. No.	:	09/865125)
Filed	:	May 24, 2001) I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on
For	:	PICKET FENCE AND RAIL MOUNTING SYSTEM)
Examiner	:	Unknown)

July 6, 2001
(Date)

Gordon H. Olson, Reg. No. 20,319

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In the Claims:

38. (New) A decorative insert for use with a picket fence and rail mounting system, comprising:

a mounting portion configured to slidably engage a slot of a rail; and

a decorative portion configured to provide an aesthetic design.

39. (New) The insert of Claim 38, wherein

the mounting portion comprises a substantially rectangular parallelepiped having at least one groove on each of two opposite faces.

40. (New) The insert of Claim 39, wherein

the mounting portion comprises at least a pair of grooves on each of two opposite faces.

41. (New) The insert of Claim 38, wherein

the decorative portion comprises a ring.